CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please replace the currently pending claims with the following claim listing:

1-21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) An optical element positioning arrangement, comprising ~~a reflective~~ an optical element, first and second actuators, a first flexure located between said first actuator and said optical element and a second flexure located between said second actuator ~~flexures located between the actuators~~ and said optical element, whereby when [[a]] said first actuator is actuated any displacement generated is transmitted via a flexure to said optical element and provided that [[a]] said second actuator's displacement differs from the displacement of said first actuator, said optical element is caused to swing, wherein said first and second flexures ~~said actuators~~ are spaced ~~relative to~~ adjacent one another and placed substantially parallel to one another.

23. (Currently Amended) An optical element positioning arrangement, comprising an optical element, at least two actuators acting in the Z direction, at least two flexures located between at least two actuators with each actuator having a central axis along its length, and said optical element, whereby when a first actuator is actuated any displacement generated is transmitted via a flexure to said optical element and provided that a second actuator's displacement differs from the displacement of said first actuator, said optical element is caused to swing; ~~wherein said actuators are spaced one relative to another and said flexures extending from said actuators are located inwards from the central axis of said actuators,~~ wherein the points

of attachment between said flexures and said actuators are located inwards from the central axes of said actuators, whereby the achievable swing is greater than when ~~said flexures are located along the central axis~~ the points of attachment between said flexures and said actuators are located along the central axis.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently Amended) A laser marking system, comprising an optical element for directing the light beam used for marking a substrate; and an actuator for displacing the optical element; wherein the system comprises a connection between said actuator and said optical element to transmit movement from said actuator to said optical element and a flexure for supporting the optical element whereby when an actuator is actuated the optical element is caused to swing and wherein the actuator is a two dimensional actuator.

28. (Previously Presented) A laser marking system according to Claim 27, wherein the optical element directs light onto a divergent lens located between the substrate to be marked and the optical element.

29. (Previously Presented) A laser marking system according to Claim 27, wherein the optical element directs light onto a convergent lens located between the substrate to be marked and the optical element.

30. (Previously Presented) A laser marking system according to Claim 27, comprising a post-spot camera for monitoring the marking and means for comparing the values obtained by the camera with pre-determined levels and adjusting the marking parameters if necessary.

31. (Previously Presented) A laser marking system according to Claim 27, comprising a photo-detector set to monitor the marking.

32. (Previously Presented) A laser marking system according to Claim 27, comprising means for measuring the marking distance and adjusting the marking parameters of the system in accordance with the distance.

33. (Previously Presented) A laser marking system according to Claim 27, comprising means for measuring the relative values of combustion light and beam power.

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Previously Presented) A laser marking system according to Claim 27, wherein the actuator is a monolithic 2D actuator.

37. (Previously Presented) A laser marking system according to Claim 36, wherein the actuator is connected to the optical element via a flexure.

38. (Cancelled)

39. (Currently Amended) A laser marking system according to Claim 27, ~~comprising an optical element positioning arrangement using~~ wherein said two dimensional actuator uses piezoelectric actuators for displacing the element in two dimensions.

40. (Previously Presented) A laser marking system, according to Claim 27, wherein the actuator is a thermo-electric actuator.

41. (Previously Presented) A laser marking system, according to Claim 27, comprising means for changing scanning speed in order to provide gaps in between characters.

42. (Previously Presented) A laser marking system, according to Claim 27, comprising a fiber laser incorporating a fiber for transmitting light onto an optical element for directing the light onto a reflector equipped with means for positioning said reflector in order to direct light onto a substrate to be marked.

43. (New) An optical element positioning arrangement, comprising an optical element, first and second actuators, a first flexure located between said first actuator and said optical element and a second flexure located between said second actuator and said optical element, with flexures located between said actuators and said optical element, whereby when said actuators are actuated any displacement generated is transmitted via said flexures to said optical element, wherein said first actuator displaces linearly in the X direction and said second actuator displaces linearly in the Y direction, said first and second actuators being orthogonally disposed relative to each other.

44. (New) An optical element according to claim 22, wherein said optical element comprises a forward portion and a rearward portion, said optical element further comprising a counterweight portion extending rearwardly and surrounding said flexures.

45. (New) An optical element according to claim 23, wherein said optical element comprises a forward portion and a rearward portion, said optical element further comprising a counterweight portion extending rearwardly and surrounding said flexures.

46. (New) An optical element positioning arrangement comprising an optical element, three actuators, and at least three flexures respectively located between said optical element and said actuators, whereby when an actuator is actuated, any displacement is transmitted via a flexure to said optical element wherein said three actuators act in the Z direction and are configured to enable the swinging of said optical element in two dimensions.

47. (New) An optical element according to claim 46 wherein said optical element comprises a forward portion and a rearward portion, said optical element further comprising a counterweight portion extending rearwardly and surrounding said flexures.

48. (New) An optical element positioning arrangement comprising an optical element, four actuators, and at least four flexures respectively located between said optical element and said actuators, whereby when an actuator is actuated, any displacement is transmitted via a flexure to said optical element, wherein said four actuators act in the Z direction and are configured to enable the swinging of said optical element in two dimensions.

49. (New) An optical element positioning arrangement, comprising an optical element, at least two actuators acting in the Z direction, at least two flexures located between at least two actuators and said optical element, whereby when a first actuator is actuated, any displacement is transmitted via a flexure to said optical element and provided that a second actuator's displacement differs from the displacement of said first, said optical element is caused to swing; wherein only one flexure is located between its corresponding actuator and said optical element.

50. (New) An optical element according to claim 49 wherein said optical element comprises a forward portion and a rearward portion, said optical element further comprising a counterweight portion extending rearwardly and surrounding said flexures.